

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 01949 01 OF 03 041916Z

46

ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 OIC-02

SY-05 SCCT-01 DHA-02 JUSE-00 USSS-00 SAJ-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 EB-07 OMB-01 /123 W

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R 041903Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6230

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: GW, PINS, PFOR

SUBJECT: FRG SEEKS INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN
FIGHT AGAINST TERRORISM

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PAGE 02 BONN 01949 01 OF 03 041916Z

REFS: (A) STATE 012247

(B) BONN 00728
(C) LUXEMBOURG 0069
(D) CARACAS 714

BEGIN SUMMARY: CONFIRMATION THAT WEST GERMAN TERRORISTS HAVE INTERNATIONAL CONNECTIONS, FRG DISPLEASURE WITH ALGERIA AND LIBYA FOLLOWING THE OPEC ATTACK, FAILURE OF LIBYA AND YEMEN TO RESPOND TO GERMAN EXTRADITION REQUESTS, AND FEAR OF ADDITIONAL TERRORIST ATTACKS HAVE MOTIVATED WEST GERMAN POLITICAL LEADERS AND SECURITY OFFICIALS TO SEEK THE COOPERATION OF OTHER NATIONS IN THE FIGHT AGAINST TERRORISM. SATISFACTION WITH AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE FRG AND FRANCE, WHICH FACILITATES COOPERATION AGAINST TERRORISM-HAS ALSO ENCOURAGED WEST GERMAN OFFICIALS TO SEEK SIMILAR AGREEMENTS WITH OTHER NATIONS. IN ADDITION TO BILATERAL AGREEMENTS, FRG AUTHORITIES ADVOCATE AN ANTI-TERRORIST AGREEMENT WITHIN THE EC AND HOPE EVENTUALLY TO PERSUADE THE UN TO ACT AGAINST TERRORISM, EITHER THROUGH A RESOLUTION OR CONVENTION. THEY ARE, HOWEVER, PESSIMISTIC ABOUT CHANCES OF SUCCESS AT THE UN. EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT IT IS IN THE US INTERESTS TO RESPOND POSITIVELY TO FRG INITIATIVES (REF A), IN THE EC, AND AT THE UN. END SUMMARY

1. IN ADDITION TO THE WELL-KNOWN TERRORIST INCIDENTS (KIDNAPPING OF PETER LORENZ IN WEST BERLIN, THE SHOOT-OUT BETWEEN TERRORISTS AND POLICE IN COLOGNE, THE ATTACK ON THE GERMAN EMBASSY IN STOCKHOLM AND THE OPEC INCIDENT IN VIENNA), THERE WERE A LARGE NUMBER OF LESS WELL-KNOWN TERRORIST INCIDENTS INVOLVING WEST GERMANS LAST YEAR. ACCORDING TO THE BUNDESKRIMINALAMT (BKA), IN 1975 THERE WERE 198 INCENDIARY OR EXPLOSIVE ATTACKS; 139 ARRESTS WERE MADE FOR TERRORIST-RELATED ACTIVITIES; 100 WEST GERMANS HAVE BEEN SENTENCED, ARE ON TRIAL, OR ARE AWAITING TRIAL FOR TERRORIST ACTIVITIES. THERE ARE WARRANTS OUT FOR THE ARREST OF 23 ADDITIONAL TERRORIST SUSPECTS. ACCORDING TO THE BKA IN BONN, CURRENTLY AROUND 1500 WEST GERMANS ARE SUSPECTED OF TERRORIST CONNECTIONS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 BONN 01949 01 OF 03 041916Z

OR SYMPATHIES.

2. IN RECENT WEEKS WEST GERMAN POLITICIANS AND SECURITY OFFICIALS HAVE BEGUN TO LOOK FOR NEW WAYS

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PAGE 01 BONN 01949 02 OF 03 041927Z

46

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R 041903Z FEB 76

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INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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TO COMBAT TERRORISM. WITHIN THE FRG, SECURITY
AUTHORITIES HAVE INCREASED SURVEILLANCE OF SUS-
PECTED TERRORISTS, PARTLY IN RESPONSE TO THE
ATTACKS IN STOCKHOLM AND VIENNA. THE GERMANS
INVOLVED IN THE ATTACK ON THE GERMAN EMBASSY IN
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PAGE 02 BONN 01949 02 OF 03 041927Z

STOCKHOLM AND HANS JOACHIM KLEIN, WHO WAS INVOLVED IN THE ATTACK ON THE OPEC MEETING IN VIENNA, HAD BEEN UNDER SURVEILLANCE, BUT SECURITY OFFICIALS DID NOT FEEL THAT EITHER KLEIN OR THE OTHER SUSPECTS WERE SUFFICIENTLY DANGEROUS TO WARRANT STRICTER SURVEILLANCE. HAVING BEEN BURNED TWICE, SECURITY OFFICIALS HAVE BECOME MORE CAUTIOUS.

3. THE MINISTER OF INTERIOR HAS COMMISSIONED STUDIES ON THE CAUSES OF TERRORISM IN THE FRG WHICH TO MOST WEST GERMANS ARE A MYSTERY, SINCE TERRORISM IS USUALLY ASSOCIATED WITH POLITICAL, SOCIAL, ECONOMIC OR ETHNIC CONFLICTS WHICH ARE NOT THOUGHT TO BE PRESENT IN THE FRG. THE BKA AND OTHER POLICE AGENCIES WONDER WHERE THE TERRORISTS GET THEIR CONSIDERABLE FINANCIAL BACKING; THEY BELIEVE THAT IT IS COMING FROM LIBYA, AND FROM BANK ROBBERIES.

4. CURRENTLY, FRG OFFICIALS ARE EMPHASIZING INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS AGAINST TERRORISM, IN LIGHT OF RECENT INCIDENTS. WEST GERMAN OFFICIALS HAVE SUSPECTED FOR SOME TIME THAT GERMAN TERRORISTS HAVE INTERNATIONAL CONNECTIONS. CONFIRMATION THAT HANS-JOACHIM KLEIN, WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE ATTACK AGAINST OPEC IN VIENNA, IS A WEST GERMAN AND HAS CONNECTIONS WITH BOTH THE BAADER-MEINHOF GANG AND WITH THE INTERNATIONAL TERRORIST IDENTIFIED AS CARLOS JUSTIFIED THEIR SUSPICIONS. AFTER THE OPEC ATTACK THE WEST GERMANS WERE FRUSTRATED BY THE BEHAVIOR OF ALGERIA AND LIBYA, WITH SOME FRG OFFICIALS SUSPECTING LIBYAN COMPLICITY IN THE ATTACK. LATER, WHEN THE FRG ASKED FOR THE EXTRADITION OF KLEIN FROM LIBYA AND FOR THE EXTRADITION OF FIVE GERMAN TERRORISTS IN YEMEN, BOTH COUNTRIES FAILED TO RESPOND POSITIVELY TO THE WEST GERMAN REQUEST.

5. THERE IS ALSO THE FEAR OF FUTURE INTERNATIONAL TERRORIST ATTACKS. WEST GERMAN SECURITY OFFICIALS ARE DISTURBED BY REPORTS THAT DURING THE OPEC ATTACK, CARLOS PROMISED THAT HE WOULD LIBERATE THE BAADER-MEINHOF GANG IN WEST GERMANY AND THAT HE HAS

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PAGE 03 BONN 01949 02 OF 03 041927Z

THREATENED 20 TERRORIST ATTACKS IN 1976. OFFICIALS ALSO FEAR THAT THE TERRORISTS IN YEMEN MAY CARRY OUT FUTURE ATTACKS. THIS FEAR IS SUPPORTED BY

ALLEGATIONS THAT ONE OF THE WOMEN INVOLVED IN THE OPEC ATTACK WAS GABRIELE KROECHER-TIEDEMANN WHO WAS SENT TO YEMEN IN EXCHANGE FOR THE RELEASE OF LORENZ.

7. ATTACKS ON FOREIGN CONSULATES AND SUSPICIONS THAT A NUMBER OF FOREIGN RESIDENTS IN THE FRG ARE INVOLVED IN TERRORISM HAVE ALSO HELPED MAKE WEST GERMANS AWARE THAT TERRORISM MUST BE FOUGHT IN THE INTERNATIONAL ARENA.

8. THERE ARE ALSO DOMESTIC POLITICAL REASONS FOR THE GOVERNMENT TO DO MORE ABOUT TERRORISM. WEST GERMANS ARE PARTICULARLY SENSITIVE TO ABERRENT SOCIO-POLITICAL BEHAVIOR AND ARE ESPECIALLY THREATENED BY ATTACKS AGAINST THEIR SOCIAL AND POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS. THE GOVERNMENT, THEREFORE, CANNOT AFFORD TO APPEAR SOFT ON TERRORISM AS IT APPROACHES ELECTIONS LATER THIS FALL, ESPECIALLY SINCE THE CDU HAS CULTIVATED AN IMAGE OF DEFENDERS OF "LAW AND ORDER." IN THE PARLIAMENT A CDU DEPUTY HAS QUESTIONED THE FOREIGN OFFICE MINISTER OF STATE VERY SHARPLY ABOUT REVIEWING RELATIONS WITH COUNTRIES WHICH HARBOR TERRORISTS. THE INTERIOR MINISTER OF RHINELAND-PFALZ, CDU, HAS SEIZED THE MOMENT AND CALLED FOR THE FORMATION OF A EUROPEAN COMMUNITY SECURITY FORCE SIMILAR TO THE ANTI-TERRORIST DEPARTMENT OF THE BKA. HE FEELS THAT SUCH A FORCE IS NEEDED BECAUSE INTERPOL IS FREQUENTLY PRECLUDED FROM ACTION IN TERRORIST INCIDENTS BECAUSE OF ESTABLISHED LIMITS ON ITS JURISDICTION.

9. ON THE POSITIVE SIDE, SATISFACTION WITH AN ANTI-TERRORISM AGREEMENT WITH FRANCE HAS ENCOURAGED WEST GERMAN SECURITY OFFICIALS TO SEEK THE COOPERATION OF OTHER COUNTRIES IN THE FIGHT AGAINST TERRORISM. THE INTERIOR MINISTER HAS ALSO DISCUSSED A SIMILAR

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PAGE 01 BONN 01949 03 OF 03 041923Z

46

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AGREEMENT WITH THE BRITISH HOME SECRETARY AND,
ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, SAID THAT HE HOPES TO
NEGOTIATE AN AGREEMENT WITH ITALY.

10. WEST GERMAN PROPOSALS FOR COMBATTING TERRORISM ON
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PAGE 02 BONN 01949 03 OF 03 041923Z

A MULTILATERAL BASIS HAVE MADE HEADLINES IN RECENT
WEEKS. ON JANUARY 1, PRESIDENT OF THE BUNDESTAG RENG
CALLED ON THE UNITED NATIONS TO CONCLUDE "A CLEAR AND
UNMISTAKEABLE CONVENTION" AGAINST TERRORISM BUT FELT
THAT THE PROSPECTS FOR SUCH A DEVELOPMENT WERE NOT VERY
GOOD. ALSO IN JANUARY, FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER
ANNOUNCED INTENTIONS TO HAVE THE EC FOREIGN MINISTERS
DEAL WITH TERRORISM AND STATED THAT THE UN COULD FULFILL
ITS OBLIGATION ONLY BY SCHEDULING THE SUBJECT FOR FULL
DEBATE. GENSCHER SAID THAT THE ULTIMATE OBJECTIVE OF
WEST GERMANY IS TO OBTAIN A UN RESOLUTION CONDEMNING
ANY NATION PROVIDING ASYLUM TO TERRORISTS. THE GERMANS

HOPE THAT THE EC INTERIOR MINISTERS WILL MEET TO DISCUSS
TERRORISM, BUT SOURCES IN THE BUNDESKRIMINALAMT ARE NOT
OPTIMISTIC THAT SUCH A MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE THIS
YEAR.

11. COMMENT: IT IS CLEAR THAT WEST GERMAN OFFICIALS
ARE SERIOUSLY COMMITTED TO PURSUING INTER-
NATIONAL AGREEMENTS AGAINST TERRORISM. EMBASSY BELIEVES
IT IS IN U.S. INTEREST TO RESPOND POSITIVELY TO FRG
INITIATIVES IN THE EC AND IN THE UN. END COMMENT.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, TERRORISTS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976BONN01949
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760042-0851
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760285/aaaacwfc.tel
Line Count: 342
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 7
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 12247
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 MAR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 MAR 2004 by ElyME>; APPROVED <24 MAR 2004 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FRG SEEKS INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN FIGHT AGAINST TERRORISM
TAGS: PINS, PFOR, GE
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006